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THOUGHTS ON GERMANY'S REARMAMENT

I.

Serious people had never any illusions about the USSR and its true nature. Nobody believed that the USSR could become a real ally of the democratic world in its struggle against Nazi Germany. The western democratic world and the USSR had a common enemy and fought the latter, but they were not allies, because an ally is more than one who fights the same enemy. An ally has also the same aims in peace.

Mutandis mutatis Germany should not be considered an enemy or a potential enemy after she was defeated in the last war. The conditions in Germany have changed fundamentally. The Germans are not as foolish as to plan another war against their Western neighbors. Besides they cannot even if they wanted. Germany's food would not last long and after the first three months of a war there would be famine. The Germans of Western Germany are afraid of the communists. This makes them allies of the Western world.

On the other hand, Germany is defenseless. What ~~now~~ troops of the Western powers are stationed in Germany are not sufficient to stop a communist attack. If a war with the USSR starts tomorrow Germany will be overrun by the Red Army in three days. Germany would be lost. But it is not Germany alone which will be lost. France with her 5 divisions and without air force would be lost also. In less than two weeks the Red Army would reach the Mediterranean coast and the Pyrenean peninsula.

Therefore it is very important to revise the attitude toward Germany's rearmament. A German army would not only defend Germany or at least delay a Soviet invasion until United States troops arrive, but contribute much to the defense of Europe. Therefore, it is advisable to rearm Western Germany in time. This could be done in various forms :

- a) Strong police force,
- b) Auxiliary military units, under Allied command
- c) Auxiliary military units under German command,
- d) Regular German army under German command,

II.

However our task is not a recommendation how to carry out the rearmament of Germany but the demonstration of the dangerous influence of the USSR upon the minds of the Western powers.

That the USSR is no longer considered by the Western world a friendly nation is a fact. Nevertheless, the Western powers are still prisoners of prejudices imposed upon them by the Soviets.

1941-1943

Although the USSR was in ~~Europe~~ in such a position that nobody in the USSR believed in a Soviet victory the conference in Yalta was carried out under the sign of Soviet demands and Western compliance. The same happened in Potsdam. The Soviets knew that hatred ~~of~~ Germans in allied countries was during the war great. They used that hatred for their own purpose.

1) The Soviets were among those who agreed with the necessity of disarmament of Germany. This was profitable to the Soviets. They knew that Germany is the pivot of Europe. They knew that a military (and political) vacuum in Germany would mean a vacuum in Europe and facilitate the conquest of Europe. They knew also that the Western powers would fulfil their obligations and really disarm the Germans while the Soviet did not intend to do so. They had in their minds to create a German communist army. Now we see that ~~as~~ they have created such an army, the so called Eastern People's Police, armed with heavy tanks, guns, air force. It is obvious that the East German army has been created not for the purpose of parading only. It is more than probable that that army will launch an attack upon Western Germany. There will be another Korea in Germany. The Soviets can do this without committing themselves to a global war, because officially it will be "civil war" for which the Soviets will not be responsible according ~~what~~ what they will tell the others in such an event.

2) The Soviets were among those who agreed with the necessity of expelling about 11 million Germans from Czechoslovakia, Poland, and other countries. Why did they so? They were very glad that the other powers had decided so, because they knew that 11 million refugees who have lost everything would be a tremendous burden to Western Germany. This would create chaotic conditions very favorable to the rise of communism.

3) The Soviets were among those who agreed with the necessity of the prohibition of

the German civilian aviation and shipbuilding. The Western allies are fulfilling those paragraphs of the treaties concerned. While there is no German aviation in Western Germany the Soviets are already establishing German passenger air lines in Eastern Germany (according to German newspapers). While in Western Germany only small ships are being built in German dockyards, the East German dockyards in Rostock, Warnemünde, Stralsund, and Stettin are building not only large passenger ships but also coast defense vessels, trawlers, torpedo boats, and submarines (according to German newspapers).

III.

Thus the Soviets do not comply with those agreements. Even when they participated in the first talks about these paragraphs they did so only in order to cause the Western allies to destroy the German army, navy, and air force, while they themselves knew that they would act just in the opposite manner in order to weaken the Western world and increase their own war potential. And to be completely fair we must state that the Soviets have done a magnificent job; they fooled the Western World in an unprecedented manner.

The weakness of the Western World is caused, first of all, by a military vacuum in Germany. Europe without Germany is defenseless. It is an error to believe that Europe could be defended on the Rhine. This is militarily impossible. Besides, the ability of the French army is questionable. In a future war the French - we mean the ordinary people - will even not know what they fight for. The Germans are different: they will know what they fight for. They will fight for the recovery of Eastern Germany. And this makes them a reliable ally.

The weakness of the Western World is caused also by another circumstance. It is the first time in history that the world is divided only into two camps: the democratic world and the communist world. The previous periods of history did not know such a situation. There were always various groups of powers. It was not difficult, therefore, to find allies in a struggle with other powers. At the beginning of this century there was the Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, and Italy), but there was also the Entente Cordiale, and there were numerous other blocks. Thus a power endangered by one of the greater blocks could always find allies among other powers or blocks. There was a great choice of eventual allies. But now there is no such choice. There is only a communist and an anti-communist world. Where are potential

among of the non-communist world among nations other than already belonging to the anti-communist block? There are no groups which could be played against each other by a power belonging to neither of them.

Thus it is important to make Western Germany an ally of the Western world, not only a spiritual ally but also a military one.

The weakness of the non-communist world is caused also by the very strange and dangerous state of minds ~~in~~ of the non-communist world. The non-communist world is afraid and almost in a state of panic. It tries to find a way to defend itself and is in a position resembling that of a man pushed into a corner where he cannot get out not being killed by his foe. The communists know that they are feared and they take this advantage. Indeed, the Western allies have not undertaken anything which could be interpreted by the Soviets as an unfriendly and aggressive move. On the contrary, they see that the Western World does not want to cause any anger and is rather prepared to make concessions. At least the Western policies toward ^{Germany} have been in the near past only concessions. It is time to show the Soviets that in the event of a war they must take into account also the German troops allied with the West. The Soviets know the Germans and fear them greatly. They know that an alliance between Germans and the Western powers is much more than what they are prepared to stand.

One of the weakest spots of the democratic world is the abstractedness of their political principles. They remain true to conceptions already refuted by the changing life. In certain points they still stick at principles which were true in the near past ^{and} but obsolete and erroneous at the present. Under the ideal conditions ~~of~~ ^{before} summer 1945, when there was hope that a lasting peace would be possible, the only reasonable thing was to keep Germany disarmed. But at the present time there is no hope that there will be peace. The situation has changed. Therefore, the principle of keeping Germany disarmed should be replaced by the principle of rearming Germany in order to provide her to defend herself and at a certain degree, also her neighbors.

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